

TAILWIND

TRAVIS AFB, CALIF.

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Words from the top...

Saying goodbye never gets easy

By Col. Dave Lefforge
60th AMW Commander

This is my final article and I just wanted to say goodbye. Today's change of command marks the transition of my command to another. Regardless of the change in leadership, what makes us who we are in the 60th Air Mobility Wing is YOU... for you are the strength of this wing. As you know, this has been a very busy year ... perhaps the busiest year in Travis history. It's been a year of incredible successes, significant sacrifices and a lot of hard work. It simply comes down to a year of BUSY! Through every challenge, every tasking, and even more, you have done what few others can boast to, and that's the reason you have validated the 60th Air Mobility Wing and all Team Travis as the most powerful mobility team in the world! Stop for just a moment, and think about that ... the most powerful mobility team in the world. It's not our KC-10s, or C-5s, or our Turners ... it's you ... you made us the most powerful as you've prosecuted this war from the home station, and from on the road.

You might think, that after 11 PCS moves, saying goodbye would get a little easier. Well, it doesn't. Especially, when it's to our many friends and the magnificent men and women who make up Team Travis. And that's the purpose of my last article ... to say thanks ... thanks for being you.

Thanks to our local friends ... our great supporters on the **Travis Regional Armed Forces Committee**, our **mayors** and **elected officials** in and around Solano County. Simply put, your support and your friendship ... across the board ... for both Debbie and me and for the men and women of Travis ... has been phenomenal. And although I know we will always be friends, I want you to know, publicly, how much I appreciate all that you do and have done.

Thanks to our families ... for there is great power in the "family." If there's one theme we need to continue emphasizing in our Air Force, it's the emphasis on family. Considering that so many of our people are deployed so much of the time ... if we don't take care of them, take care of their basic needs, give them decent places to work, eat, sleep, play and to pray ... in short, if we don't treat every one of them the same way we'd like our own family to be treated, then we're not doing our job ... we're not keeping up our end of our "family responsibilities."

I've said many times that our families are the ones who most often make the biggest sacrifices as we carry on the Wing's business. From moms and dads to our children, you frequently go without a parent during special days, holidays, school plays, ball games and much more — it doesn't seem like enough to say "Thanks" for what you do every day. But I want you to know



Col. Dave Lefforge, 60th Air Mobility Wing commander and Chief Master Sgt. Dan Johnson, command chief master sergeant, pose for a photo outside of Wing Headquarters Wednesday.

how much Debbie and I truly appreciate you and your part in this great Travis family.

Thanks also to our partners in this team. To **Col. Jim Rubeor** and the 349th Air Mobility Wing, **Col. Rick Martin** and the 615th AMOG, **Col. Stapleton** and the Army's 3d Brigade, 91st Division, **LCDR Pat Ray** and the Navy's great TACAMO and all of our other special units — you and your men and women have been marvelous partners during this tough year!

One of my favorite movies is *The American President*. In it, Michael Douglas plays the role of the president, and during a press conference remarks that "America isn't easy," that America is all about advanced citizenship and the costs that are involved to keep our freedom. Well, I think I've always known that, but it took those words to put it in better perspective for me, that being an American is hard work ... and nobody knows that better than you. You may recall another movie, *Apollo 13*, when as the three astronauts are running out of options in their crippled space capsule, the mission director in Houston puts his great team of experts onto the many challenges facing them and says, "failure is not an option!" Even though being an American is harder for you than most Americans, keep up the great work. America depends on you to do so ... because failure is not an option!

From Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom, you have been very, very busy leading the way time after time, to protect our freedom and our way of life. Since Sept. 11, you have been in a full-court press, 24 hours-a-day, 7 days-a-week, first moving recovery people, equipment and relief supplies to the sites of the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, then moving forces into areas surrounding Afghanistan, and lifting relief supplies to the nearly two million Afghan refugees who were forced out of their homes by the cowards who were ruining their own country. You refueled more 3000 bomber sorties and showed those very cowards just what happens when you take

on an angry United States. You also validated our ability to successfully deploy our C-5s to Kandahar in the first ever expeditionary role.

As if that wasn't enough, you simultaneously fought tooth-and-nail for the programs we need to leave Travis better than we found it. And, a direct result of your smart, hard work, showed up this week, as we just received funding to refurbish all our remaining dormitories, and finally, the money to re-do Travis Boulevard to make it the showcase main artery that you and Travis deserves. Funding can be a little slow, but persistence and a solid strategic plan will get us to where we need to be in our vision of infrastructure for readiness.

My special thanks go to my staff, who worked incredible hours on thousands of issues. My executive officer, **Maj. Eric Wohlrab**, did a fantastic job of running the office and keeping an endless schedule on track. **Maj. Sophie Senn** (who PCS'd in July) and **Maj. Mark Fitzgerald** were also two superb executive officers who kept what seemed like an endless stream of performance reports, promotion recommendations and countless more correspondence flowing. I'm not sure how they did it, but they made it seem easy ... and had a smile every day. **Maj. Tricia Erwin**, **Captains Tony Bamsey**, **Mike "Griz" Grismer** and **Thom Adkins** round out the exec pool. And of those thousands of issues that I mentioned, none moved without **Master Sgt. Shirley Harmon**, **Tech. Sgt. Deb Crafard**, **Staff Sgt. Ryan Morrison** or **Staff Sgt. Michelle Almarode** putting their stamps of approval on them first.

But my very, very special thanks go to **Susan Ballow**, my secretary and advisor who seemed to know what I wanted before I wanted it and had it all taken care of every time.

My closest advisor and confidant, who is truly the spirit of all that is great about Travis is **Chief Master Sgt. Dan Johnson** our command chief. "Chief J" is inter-

Tailwind

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Staff Sgt. Jim Verchio / 60th AMW PA

ON THE COVER: Brig. Gen. Stanley Baker takes command today from Col. Dave Lefforge at 9 a.m. on the flightline.

Change of Command

Brig. Gen. Bradley S. Baker assumes command of the 60th AMW

By Staff Sgt. Mark Diamond
60th AMW Public Affairs

Brig. Gen. Bradley Baker assumes command of the 60th Air Mobility Wing from Col. David Lefforge today during a 9 a.m. change of command ceremony on the Travis flightline.

Baker comes to Travis from Washington, D.C., where he was deputy director, Air Force strategic planning, and deputy chief of staff for plans and programs, Headquarters, U.S. Air Force.

Although Baker will become wing commander for the largest base in Air Mobility Command, the mission should be very familiar to him. As a lieutenant colonel from 1995 to 1996, Baker was the deputy commander of the 60th Operations Group here.

Baker entered active duty as a Reserve Officer Training Corps distin-

guished graduate in March 1976 and attended undergraduate pilot training at Williams Air Force Base, Ariz.

During an Air Force career that spans nearly 27 years, Baker has commanded at the squadron, group and wing levels. Furthermore, he is a command pilot with more than 5,000 hours in various aircraft, including the C-5, C-21, C-9, CT-39, C-141, KC-135 and C-17.

The general holds a bachelor of science degree in education from the University of Missouri, and a master's degree in aeronautical science from Embry-Riddle University.

Baker's awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit with one oak leaf cluster; Defense Meritorious Service Medal; Air Force Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters; Aerial Achievement Medal; Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster; Air Force Achievement Medal; Combat

Readiness Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal; Southwest Asia Service Medal with three stars; Defense Humanitarian Service Medal; and the Kuwait Liberation Medal.

As commander of the 60th AMW, Baker will be responsible for the combined efforts of all operations and support activities associated with the worldwide air mobility mission. The wing's 37 C-5 and 27 KC-10 aircraft participate in airland and aerial refueling taskings, responding to Joint Chiefs of Staff-directed combat operations, and supporting U.S. State Department-sponsored humanitarian relief efforts worldwide. The general is also responsible for ensuring the readiness and well being of nearly 23,700 active duty, Reserve and civilian personnel and their families.

Lefforge — who assumed command of the 60th AMW in September 2001 and



Brig. Gen. Bradley Baker

guided the wing through the critical months following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks — is moving on to Lubbock, Texas, where he will become an aerospace studies professor and take command of the Reserve Officer Training Corps at Texas Tech University.



AFP

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper presents the Air Force Cross to Teresa Cunningham, wife of pararescueman and hero Senior Airman Jason D. Cunningham, at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M. on Sept. 13. Cunningham lost his life in Afghanistan while on a rescue mission. Despite being mortally wounded, he saved 10 lives and made it possible for seven others who were killed to come home.

Hero awarded Air Force Cross

By Terry Walker
377th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, N.M. (AFP) — Senior Airman Jason Cunningham, a pararescueman who lost his life in Afghanistan while saving 10 lives and making it possible for seven others who were killed to come home, was posthumously awarded the Air Force Cross Sept. 13.

The Air Force Cross is awarded for extraordinary heroism while engaged in action against an enemy of our nation. It is second only to the Medal of Honor.

"We gather to salute his bravery and to reward his heroism," said Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James Roche. "We gather to pay tribute to an airman who, on the field of battle, not only gave his life serving his nation, but also gave his life serving his fellow Americans."

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper presented the Air Force Cross to Cunningham's wife, Teresa. Cunningham's parents, Lawrence and Jackie Cunningham, also received medals from Jumper.

"In the frailty of our human existence we are ill equipped to express the extremes of our emotions," Jumper said. "For in the peak of our love or the depths of our sorrow, we have only feeble words that never truly capture the peaks and valleys of our feelings."

"I stand before you today in the humble attempt to assemble

the words to honor a hero, knowing in advance that my attempt will fall short of the tribute that is his due."

Cunningham, a Carlsbad, N.M., native, joined the Air Force's elite combat rescue program and graduated pararescue technical training in June 2001. He was deployed to Southwest Asia in February 2002.

'We gather to salute his bravery and to reward his heroism.'

— Dr. James Roche
Secretary of the Air Force

On March 4, Cunningham was the primary Air Force combat search and rescue medic assigned to a quick reaction force in Afghanistan. The force was sent to rescue two American servicemen evading capture in austere terrain occupied by al-Qaida and Taliban forces.

Before landing, his MH-47E Chinook helicopter received rocket-propelled grenade and small-arms fire, disabling the aircraft and forcing it to crash-land. Crewmembers formed a hasty defense and immediately suffered three fatalities and five critical casualties.

The citation accompanying Cunningham's Air Force Cross reads, "Despite effective enemy fire, and at great risk to his own life, Airman Cunningham remained in the burning fuselage

of the aircraft in order to treat the wounds. As he moved his patients to a more secure location, mortar rounds began to impact within 50 feet of his position."

"Disregarding this extreme danger, he continued the movement and exposed himself to enemy fire on seven separate occasions. When the second casualty collection point was also compromised, in a display of uncommon valor and gallantry, Airman Cunningham braved an intense small arms and rocket-propelled grenade attack while repositioning the critically wounded to a third collection point."

The citation continues, "Even after he was mortally wounded and quickly deteriorating, he continued to direct patient movement and transferred care to another medic. In the end, his distinct efforts led to the successful delivery of 10 gravely wounded Americans to life-saving medical treatment."

In remarks that seemed to capture Cunningham's spirit, Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Gerald Murray said, "The former Navy petty officer considered joining the SEALs, but became an Air Force PJ. His reasoning? While other special operators search and destroy, PJs search and save."

Cunningham was laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery on March 11. (Courtesy of Air Force Materiel Command News Service)

NEWS NOTES

Car show

The David Grant Medical Center is hosting a car show Saturday at noon in the National Guard armory parking lot outside of Travis' Main Gate. There is a \$3 entry fee and a \$10 car registration fee which includes free food. All money raised will go toward a children's drawing room inside the hospital.

Karnival for kids

The Solano County Children and Families Commission is hosting a Kindergarten Karnival Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Anna-Kyle Elementary School at 1600 Kidder Ave. in Fairfield. The Karnival is a local resource fair to improve the health of children less than 5 years old. For more information, call 435-2965.

Car Wash

Travis' Drug Education for Youth is hosting a car wash fundraiser from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at the Family Support Center.

ANG opportunities

The Hayward Air National Guard Station is looking to fill some critical career fields. The career fields needed are: engineering assistant, electronic computer and switching systems, ground radio, satcom and wideband and services. Those leaving active duty who are interested should call Staff Sgt. Vic Dumlao at (510) 264-5603.

Scout openings

The Travis Scouting program has openings for boys and girls in first through 12th grades. Adult leadership positions are also available. For more information, see the display at back to school night or contact Scott Stewart at 437-3940.

Return to service

Want to return to Active Duty? Opportunities exist for Air Reserve Component members to serve in Line of the Air Force active duty tours at Travis. Applicants must have rated experience. Prior mobility experience desired but not required — unit will provide all required training.

For more information about the positions, call Col. Raymond Vizzone, 615th Air Mobility Operations Group, at 424-5345.

Proper courtesy

Remember the proper customs and courtesies when out and about at Travis. One item in particular is rendering the proper hand salute when staff vehicles pass that are marked with the insignia of an O-6 or above.

Travis lieutenants selected for promotion to captain

60th Air Mobility Wing

Arredondo Angela
Hammond Monique
Kidd Deborah

60th Operations Support Squadron

Hilfiker Jeffrey
Moss David
Thomas Dena

21st Airlift Squadron

Eldridge Patrick
Gibson Gregory
Lampton Jeffrey
Schaeffer Ryan
Schumacher Curt
Smith Jason
Strange Jonathan
Taylor David
Williams James

22nd Airlift Squadron

Bowshot Robert
Burns John
Hall Terry

Hertenstein Steven

Jones Matthew
Krulick Jeffrey
Marshall Miles
McBroom Daniel
McKee Anthony
Mollis Daniel
Rasmussen Spencer
Sprankles Kyle
Townsend Sean

6th Air Refueling Squadron

Cauthen Apryl
Holen Connie
Holen Wade
Paine Jared
Pierre Douglas
Stacy Christopher
Taggart James
Uber Kristopher
Uphshaw Billy

9th Air Refueling Squadron

Galvan Fernando
Heymann Juergen
Maupin Allison
McClaskey Colin

Nyman Heather Lynne
Torres Guillermo

60th Contracting Squadron

Bowshot Shawna
Giglio Elizabeth

60th Component Repair Squadron

Williams Earl

60th Equipment Maintenance Squadron

Creighton John
Schloss John

60th Aircraft Generation Squadron

Soto Maria

660th Aircraft Generation Squadron

Watts David
Williams Douglas

615th Air Mobility Operations Group

Schearer Steven

615th Air Mobility Squadron

Cashman Joseph
Giglio Richard
Kendall David
Korduner John

615th Air Mobility Operations Squadron

Myers Harmony

715th Air Mobility Squadron

Shirgul Wais



Phoenix Readiness to become 'graduate-level' training

Program prepares airmen for bare base operations

By Tech. Sgt. Scott Elliott
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Expeditionary combat support personnel throughout the Air Force will soon have more opportunities to get "graduate-level training" in the art of building and operating an air base from scratch.

Phoenix Readiness, the Air Mobility Command-run training program operated by the Air Mobility Warfare Center at McGuire Air Force Base, N.J., has been designated by Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper for upgrade to a flag-level program. Flag exercises are designed to train all Air Force expeditionary airmen.

"A great deal of the Air Force's integrated warfighting training is done during flag exercises, such as Red Flag and Blue Flag," said Lt. Gen. Michael Zettler, deputy chief of staff for installations and logistics. "Our Air Force today is expeditionary, and our prime operating environment is in a deployed state. It's only logical that we take the Phoenix Readiness operation, fine-tune it, and make it our flag-level integrated training opportunity for deployed operations."

According to Maj. Gen. Timothy Peppe, special assistant to the chief of staff for air and space expeditionary forces, Phoenix Readiness currently trains seven classes per year. Each class

comprises 450 officers and airmen from more than 20 Air Force specialty codes.

"We hope to expand the number of AFSCs, and one could make the case that any deployable AFSC should (attend)," Peppe said.

Lt. Gen. John Baker, AMC vice commander, said he applauded the designation of Phoenix Readiness as a flag-level program.

"One of the advantages of reaching officers and airmen from different ECS specialties through Phoenix Readiness is that, together, they will learn how to deploy as a cohesive expeditionary flight, squadron or wing," Baker said.

Airmen spend 12 training days at Phoenix Readiness, studying career-field and common-core tasks, pre-deployment planning, deployment sustainment and re-deployment activities the first week. The course also prepares leaders — group commanders through front-line supervisors — to deal with integrating and deconflicting the efforts of the various functions needed to build a base in an austere environment.

A field-training exercise completes the training by integrating all specialties into one military operation striving toward a single mission, Peppe said.

"The last days include going to a bare-base site, taking equipment that's packed up just as it would be on a pallet you unload from an airplane," Peppe said. "They have to break it down, erect their tents on wooden frames, set up their kitchens and their perimeters — the whole nine yards. (They do) everything that goes with opening up a bare base."

According to Peppe, the Phoenix Readiness experience contributes heavily to the service's expeditionary goals by creating better trained and more experienced airmen.

"The bottom line is (that) I've heard rave reviews from everyone, particularly from those who have gone to Afghanistan or some of the other places, and have (acquired) the skills taught at Phoenix Readiness," Peppe said.

"From the people I've talked to, the Phoenix Readiness graduate is better prepared to handle the task of setting up a bare-base than those who have not had the opportunity for this integrated training," he said.

Maj. Gen. Christopher Kelly, AMWC commander, said he is proud of the Phoenix Readiness program.

"Phoenix Readiness has steadily built a tradition of excellence for training the total force," Kelly said. "We stand ready to accept the challenges of our expanded mission to provide flag-level expeditionary combat skills training."

The program is not mandatory for all deployable airmen, but Peppe said such a requirement is being examined. In the meantime, Phoenix Readiness will expand to eight classes next year, then to ten classes by fiscal 2004.

While a new name for the flag-level exercise has not been determined yet, Peppe said he is sure of one thing: "It's a Red Flag for those people in the ECS arena. (It's) graduate-level training."

Travis officers unite for mentorship, fun

By 1st Lt. Angela Arredondo
60th AMW Public Affairs

The Travis Company Grade Officers Council hopes to kick off fiscal 2003 with a flurry of activities aimed at increasing membership and influence across the base.

"We want CGOs to know this is their organization and serve them as best we can," said Capt. Dan Bucsko, Travis CGOC president. "Our goals are to gain fellowship and to get to know other CGOs. We have a lot of informational-sharing activities."

The Travis CGOC meets weekly. Informal lunches are planned every Wednesday at different locations on and off base. The next luncheon is 11:30 a.m. Wednesday at the Cypress Lakes Golf Course. They also host briefings for professional development. For example, Capt. Bill Malloy, Travis CGOC chairman of Fisher House projects, is leading a presentation called, "Maximizing Your Squadron Officer School Experience" at 3:30 p.m. Sept. 27 at the Delta Breeze Club. The presentation will be immediately followed by Karaoke Night.

Enhancing the image of company grade officers through leadership excellence is the mission of the group. One way the Travis CGOC works toward this mission statement is by taking on several community service projects. They provide a potluck dinner to the Fisher House every fourth Monday of the month. Additionally, they are participating in the Sacramento Valley AIDS Walk this Sunday, and Sept. 27 they are sending representatives to Fairfield High School to mentor students about careers in the Air Force. Another mentorship day is scheduled at Vanden High School Oct. 7. These are just a few examples of the broad range of projects the Travis CGOC sponsors.

"These projects are opportunities for community and base involvement. We look forward to more and more CGOs becoming members," Bucsko said.

For a complete calendar of events and more information, visit <http://w3.travis.af.mil/cgoc/cgoc> or contact members of the CGOC executive board listed to the right.

Board members

- » Capt. Dan Bucsko, president, 423-5064
- » 2nd Lt. Cindy Orakpo, vice president of programs and social interaction, 424-8000 ext. 7020
- » 1st Lt. Nick Jameson, vice president of public relations and Web site design, 424-1090
- » Capt. Bill Malloy, chairman of Fisher House projects, 423-7901
- » Capt. Pualani Zuniga, chairman of Fisher House projects, 424-0065
- » 2nd Lt. Tora King, chairman of community service projects and programs, 424-3334
- » 1st Lt. Jon Cartwright, chairman of treasury and finance, 424-1994
- » 1st Lt. Harmony Myers, chairman of newcomer's orientation, 424-4773
- » 1st Lt. John Creighton, chairman of junior officer professional development program, 424-7042

Government travel card abuse can lead to trouble

By 1st Lt. Jonathan Cartwright
60th Comptroller Squadron

The Government Travel Card, which was created and mandated by the Travel and Transportation Reform Act of 1998, is the way federal agencies provide employees and personnel on official business with immediate access to the funds needed for official travel. Department of Defense employees, unless exempt, are required to use the GTC whenever they travel on official business. All personnel traveling on official business are subject to the Code of Federal Regulation, the U.S. Code and the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Unauthorized use of the GTC may be cause to prosecute individuals for fraud. Not paying the bill on time can affect the member's credit rating and may subject them to disciplinary action.

A member should submit all travel vouchers within five days of returning from a deployment. Travis then has a 30-day reimbursement period for all travel vouchers that are submitted correctly. Once the member's GTC account has reached a 60-day past due status, the account will be suspended. At the 75-day point, a monthly \$29 late fee will be applied. If a member is placed in mission critical status, their monthly \$29 late fee will be paid by the squadron or base operation and maintenance funds. Once the account hits 90 days past due the cardholder will be mailed a salary offset due process letter. If no action is

taken after 90 days, the account will be cancelled. After 120 days, garnishment of wages may begin.

So what happens when a deployment or TDY is more than 45 days? The member needs to visit their finance office with a copy of their orders before the trip and set up an interim or accrual voucher, according to officials. This allows the member to receive partial reimbursement before the travel is concluded in order to make payments on the GTC. The accrual can be done every 30 days if the member faxes their voucher information from the deployed site.

The fastest way a member can make a payment is by split disbursement on the member's travel voucher, officials said. Currently, 31 percent of all payments to the GTC are done via split disbursement. Pay-by-phone will post to the member's account within 48 to 72 hours but includes a \$10 fee. A member can walk into any Bank of America and make a payment. It may take up to five days to post but it will be postdated for the date the payment was made. Other options include mail, Western Union, wire transfers and on-line bill pay.

An expected mandatory split disbursement policy for lodging, airfare and car rental cost is expected for the Air Force during the winter of 2002. A possible pre-loaded debit card may also replace the credit card in the future. Remember — everyone's situation can be different. For more information, visit www.gcsuthd.bankofamerica.com or contact your squadron's approving official.

Don't get burned



Courtesy photo

Damage to this patio was caused when the propane deep-fat fryer in the lower right-hand corner of the photo was left unattended and consequentially boiled over.

Housing residents pay for damage

By 60th Civil Engineer Squadron, Housing Office

When 14 Travis Military Family Housing residents were assessed with more than \$16,000 for damages to their housing units in 2002, it meant smaller paychecks. And that amount doesn't include three major house damages that are still under a report of survey process to determine the level of liability for the military members.

"The bulk of the housing damage is fire-related accidents and irreparable damage to carpet," said Mark Dupree, the Travis Housing Office manager. Housing officials said house fires stemming from hot barbecue cookers or improperly disposed charcoal are the major causes of the most recent fires.

Damaged carpet has also cost members a hefty sum.

"Residents should be aware that carpet that requires replacement is paid by the military member at the depreciated rate," Dupree said. Payments of \$1,971, \$1,503 and \$1,074 were received from members when large portions of the unit's carpet had to be replaced due to major spills, pet chewing or burn marks, he said. Although members are responsible for major damage, they are not assessed for fair wear and tear to the housing unit.

Housing officials recommend residents prepare themselves for potential damage.

"In August, an accidental fire occurred on the patio of an airman's home on Maine Street days before he was scheduled to

deploy," Dupree said. "Fortunately, his renter's insurance covered the full damage. His agent handled the restitution, and the member deployed with peace of mind."

"The vast majority of Travis housing residents take great care of their home with free materials from housing's U-Fix-It Store," he said. "Most residents even improve their house by adding landscaping to the grounds, installing fencing and taking care of the gutters and downspouts. However, carelessness with spills, burns or pet damage to floors, carpet or counter surfaces, and unattended barbecue cooking can result in the occupant paying for the damage."

For more information, call the housing office at 424-2726.

60th SFS staff sergeant convicted of theft

By Col. Andrea Anderson
60th AMW Staff Judge Advocate

During court martial proceedings Aug. 8, Staff Sgt. William Zrnchik II, 60th Security Forces Squadron, was court-martialed for stealing a set of night vision goggles and a thermal imaging device. He was charged with larceny of military property of a value of about \$12,500. Zrnchik pled guilty and elected to be tried by military judge alone.

In February 2002, Zrnchik stole the night vision goggles and the thermal imager from an office in the Security Forces Squadron. The night vision goggles were part of the unit's regular mobility equipment. The thermal imager was

intended for use by "the Ravens," a component of the 60th SFS specially trained in resource protection.

After taking the equipment from the office, Zrnchik shipped the items to his brother, Benjamin Zrnchik, in Indiana, so that his brother could sell it. Security Forces investigators became aware of the theft after being contacted by authorities in Indiana, who had discovered the stolen equipment when Benjamin Zrnchik attempted to sell the thermal imager to a reserve police officer.

The military judge sentenced Zrnchik to a bad conduct discharge, 18 months confinement, reduction to the grade of E-1 and forfeiture of all pay and allowances.

The problem with stereotypes

View Point

Tech. Sgt. Thierry Hobson
60th Military Equal Opportunity Office

Some of you may have heard the frustrating story about the man whose car broke down in the middle of rush-hour traffic. After sitting in his stalled car for five minutes enduring honking horns and various profanities, the man became agitated. He got out of his car, went to the motorist behind him and said, "I'll tell you what, why don't you get into my car and try to start it while I sit in your car and beep the horn." The moral of the story is, we all must make choices to be part of the problem or part of the solution. And when it comes to stereotypes, the same principle applies.

Several years ago, I attended a technical training school at Patrick AFB, Fla. While there, I went with another classmate to the mall one evening to look around. Before entering one particular store, I told my friend that I was going to sit on a mall bench and wait for him. As I watched him enter the store, I noticed the warm welcome he received from the two store clerks and thought to myself, wow, what a friendly reception. After a few minutes, I decided to catch up with him and went into the store myself. Upon entering, both clerks merely glanced at me, didn't say a word, and continued their conversation without skipping a beat. To top it off, I noticed one of the clerks later approach my classmate again to ask him if he needed help finding anything. Now you may say that is just good customer service, but what about me? I didn't receive the same service, why not? Did the store clerks have stereotypical views that prevented them from providing me the same great service? After all, the only noticeable difference between my classmate and I was the color of our skin.

This is an all too common experience many people, particularly minorities, face on a daily basis. Whether in the military or civilian sector, stereotypes, prejudices and false assumptions can and often lead to discriminatory behaviors and cause frustration, stress, and polarization between different

racial or cultural groups. Such behaviors are a definite hindrance to mission readiness.

So how do we reverse the vicious cycle? While there are a number of positive steps to take to end this cycle, the first approach is to realize that we all have prejudices and stereotypes. Depending on our socialization, the accumulation of our life experiences, we tend to view others in a negative or positive light. Sometimes, we unknowingly become so comfortable with our stereotypes that we begin to assign the characteristics of one individual to an entire group of people. For example, have you ever heard someone start out a sentence with, "You people..." or "Those people...?" When this happens, we strip someone of his or her individuality. According to the Department of Defense Human Goals, "Our nation was founded on the principle that the individual has infinite dignity and worth. The Department of Defense, which exists to keep the nation secure and at peace, must always be guided by this principle." Think of some of the comments you've heard or even may have used yourself, ouch! Unfortunately, some people feel they need to categorize a person as if that person or everyone in that particular group acts the same way? No one deserves to be judged on the basis of someone else's actions. Yet it still happens.

Once we recognize our own stereotypes, we need to make a conscious effort to change our negative thinking and behaviors. Treating someone with respect regardless of his or her cultural or racial differences may instill mutual trust and possibly break down cultural barriers between the respective parties.

The bottom line is when our stereotypes and prejudices lead us to discriminate; it's a lose-lose situation for everyone. So the next time you're tempted to treat someone different because of your own bias, ask yourself, will my actions or inaction reflect I'm part of the problem, or part of the solution.

Travis care provider recognized

courtesy article

Moises Hernandez from here, earned the grand prize in the Scholastic Early Childhood Professional Awards in the Family Child Care Provider Category.

The Scholastic Early Childhood Professional Awards were created by Scholastic Inc. to recognize the role played by early childhood professionals across the United States. The recognition celebrates the devotion of loving, trained early childhood providers, teachers and administrators and honors their commitment to nurturing young children.

Hernandez is well respected in his field. Parents seek him out to provide care for their children. Other providers con-

sider him and his home models of quality. Earlier this year, Air Mobility Command officials named him the AMC Family Child Care Provider of the Year for 2002.

Several providers from Travis have visited his home to get ideas on how to best set up their own home activity rooms. His monthly home inspection scores are some of the highest in the program, and he contributes greatly to mission accomplishment by accepting additional responsibility.

Called a natural teacher by parents, Hernandez takes it upon himself to teach Spanish to children in his care. One of the ways he does this is by labeling such items as toys, art supplies and food in English and Spanish. The children

develop a sense of pride in learning another language and this is a delight to parents.

In addition to teaching children a second language, Hernandez also teaches them how to make and play their own musical instruments. The kids formed their own band and played songs to entertain parents at a celebration Hernandez hosted for Month of the Military Child.

Hernandez does not take his duties lightly and enjoys the time he spends with the children in his care. He fosters a learning environment where children grow and learn in a loving home.

Hernandez philosophy as a care provider is a simple one. I believe that what children hope and dream for is possible

if we as providers and care takers give them lots of love and encouragement," he said.

Through the Air Force Child Care program, children of airmen and defense civilians receive care in licensed homes. Air Force-wide, more than 40 percent of childcare offered is in family childcare homes.

As a Scholastic grand prize winner, Hernandez will receive \$1,000 worth of Scholastic products, a round-trip ticket and one night stay in New York City for attendance to the 2002 National Association for Educating Young Children Conference, a picture and a profile in Scholastic Early Childhood Today Magazine, and Kasey the Kinderbot from Fischer-Price — an interactive learning friend that helps pre-



Moises Hernandez

HAWC offers peak performance course

By Capt. Beth Kaiser

60th Medical Group

If you are not operating at your peak, it may be the right time to make a positive choice. The Health And Wellness Center can assist you in reaching your peak performance. HAWC staff members offer a progressive approach to stress management skills, physical activity, relaxation, nutrition tips and spiritual fitness.

Individuals may want to seek balance. Balance is described as the dynamic tension between who we are and who we can become. It is the constant bending, pulling and stretching among work, play, family, goals, dreams and responsibilities that we engage in, during our pursuit of a meaningful life.

Wellness is an accumulation of good choices leading to optimal health and quality of life. It is an active process of becoming aware of and making decisions toward a more successful existence. Wellness has multiple components and there is an advantage to working on these simultaneously. Synergy also follows when individuals work

on these areas together through social support and mutual commitment. This synergy helps the creative process of looking for and exploring possibilities that benefit all, according to the HAWC staff. Steven Covey, author of "Seven Habits of Highly Effective People" highlights the importance of 'sharpening the saw' and renewing. The Peak Performance Courses are Thursdays from 12 to 1 p.m., for four classes. Attendees may bring their own brown bag lunch.

Travis Integrated Delivery System further encourages personnel to take full advantage of many other programs available at the HAWC. Some of the other programs include Smoking Cessation, Gym in a Bag and Stress Management. Along with TIDES' emphasis on the timely Travis Unified For Freedom campaign, the HAWC staff challenges individuals to strengthen themselves and those around. Enjoy the benefit and power of broad, social connections.

Participants agree the most benefit comes from attending all four classes. For more information, call the HAWC at 424-4292.

Never shake a baby, ever

By Capt. Beth Kaiser

60th Medical Group

The term "Shaken Baby Syndrome" describes the consequences that occur when a young child's head is whiplashed back and forth during shaking.

Babies can easily be injured by this means. Their neck muscles aren't strong enough to control head movements, and rapid movement of the head can result in the brain being bruised from banging against the skull wall, according to officials.

Bleeding behind the eyes and in and around the brain occurs and can cause serious injury. Depending upon the shaking, consequences may include seizures, blindness, paralysis, mental retardation, or death. In cases of less violent and sometimes chronic shaking of a young child, long-term outcomes can include attention deficits, speech difficulties, learning disabilities and hearing loss.

Officials say most shaking is precipitated by inconsolable crying. The child's crying can anger parents or caregivers. Sometimes people shake babies out of frustration over "colic", toilet training, feeding problems and even TV viewing. Sometimes ignorance of the dangers of shaking is a contributing factor. Most people realize that hitting hurts kids, but few are aware that even moderate shaking can be lethal to a child, officials said.

Individual and community efforts towards prevention are essential, as the fatality rate of SBS is well over 50 percent. Take responsibility for anger before hurting a child. Try meeting the baby's basic physical and comfort needs, walk with them, hug them, call a trusted other for support. If baby is still overtired, over-stimulated or inconsolable, put baby in a crib or safe place, and leave the room, close the door and check on them every five minutes or so. Feel free to call Family Advocacy New Parents Support Program for even more positive parenting assistance, classes and/or home visits. For more information, call 423-5168.

The best guests to invite to a party are the designated drivers.

Hip hop airman dances to fitness



Photo by Linda Mann-Ilames / 60th Services Squadron

Airman 1st Class Marcus Boykin demonstrates some of his dancing abilities at the Fitness Center. Boykin who is assigned to the 60th Services Squadron works at the fitness center. He recently was given the opportunity to instruct the Hip Hop aerobics class while the instructor is on maternity leave.

By Linda Mann-Ilames
60th Services Squadron

When the regular Hip Hop Fitness instructor went on maternity leave, it seemed the Hip Hop aerobics class would have to be put on hold for some time. However, the Fitness Center had one of its own ready to fill her dancing shoes.

Airman 1st Class Marcus Boykin works in the Fitness Center, meeting and greeting patrons and handing out towels and other equipment as part of his Air Force duties. Now he's taking this chance to show off some of his dancing talents while providing a valuable service to Fitness Center patrons.

Boykin wears his Fitness Center military uniform while behind the desk and his dance clothes in the classroom. In the Hip Hop Fitness class, Boykin demonstrates moves and dance steps and breaks down each move so the students can learn the moves.

"Airman 1st Class Boykin break dances in his spare time and has recently taken his hobby to a higher level, competing state-wide," said Airman 1st

Class Jesse Menzie special events coordinator for the 60th Services Squadron." He is an excellent dancer, and we are very glad he volunteered to keep the class going while Jenny Doyle is gone."

"I was really impressed with how well the students follow him — his class is appropriate for beginning and advanced dancers," said Barb Hickenbottom, Fitness Center manager for the 60th Services Squadron.

Boykin taught break dancing classes years ago at the Grover Beach Community Center in Southern California and is working on starting a break dancing class at Travis.

"Anyone who would like to learn to break dance should sign up at the Fitness Center. Once enough students register, we can start the class," Boykin said.

Boykin says he was first introduced to dance through "The Rapper Delight" music video on MTV in 1996. After seeing the music video, he knew he wanted to do it, so he started practicing. He started practicing. Now, at 19 years old, he performs with a group of

dancers called the Non Stop B Boys. The group performs in Northern California including Sacramento, Oakland, San Francisco and in Solano County.

"We practice every day and compete about twice a month," he said. "There are eight guys in our group. The members are a combination of military members as well as dependants ranging from 16 to 19 years old."

Boykin said he loves to dance — Hip Hop, break dance and urban groove. Eventually, he wants to dance professionally.

"When I get out of the Air Force, I want to move to Southern California and dance professionally in Los Angeles. I know a crew of dancers down there called Sum Crew. I definitely plan on dancing with them some day," Boykin said.

The Hip Hop fitness class currently meets from 6 to 7 p.m. Wednesdays and from 7 to 8 p.m. on Fridays. The class is open to all eligible Fitness Center users and is free for a limited time. To register for the class, stop by the Fitness Center or 424-2008 for more information.

Story submissions to the Tailwind are due by 4:30 p.m. the Friday prior to publication to Bldg. 51, Room 231. Include the author's name, title and duty phone.

Farewell / From Page 2

ested only in YOU ... and your families. He's been involved in every single issue since he's been here, and has been a guiding figure in the many events, programs, issues and challenges this past year. So many of the quality of life successes — from housing to dormitories to making aerospace leaders from our young airmen are direct results of his leadership. Simply saying "thanks" doesn't seem enough ... but "Thanks Chief ... from us all!"

Group commanders, squadron commanders, superintendents and first shirts round out a distinguished list of individuals I owe a lot of thanks to ... because they are the selfless men and women who watch over our professionals and their families. They don't get near the recognition they deserve for the day in, day out performance and leadership they provide.

Unfortunately, it would take me too many more paragraphs to say thanks to everyone. So my message to each of you, is to thank you ... not for what you do, but the way you do it ... it's to thank you for what you stand for!

Together, we made it through the initial deployment, redeployments, Stop-Loss, mobilization and demobilization, MilPDS, pay-problems and we put two and a half years of flying time on our jets ... in just 12 months! Guam, Diego Garcia, Kandahar, SWA and countless locations still classified...your footprints are all over the world!

Finally, family is very important to me, and I want to say **thanks to my bride Debbie**. Sometimes, her schedule was tougher than mine, volunteering at the Thrift Shop, working with the Officer and Enlisted Wives' Clubs and taking care of our great kids, **Amy and Tex** ... and me. She kept the home schedule going at a breakneck pace, and when I looked as if I couldn't stay up another minute, she was still finishing up that one last thing, before getting ready to take on the next day. They're the reason that I do what I do.

Travis is more than a place and more than just a mission. Travis is a spirit of professionalism, patriotism and performance ... all of which make you the very best in the business! That's why you're America's First Choice. **To you, our dear friends, you will always be in our hearts ... you're simply AWESOME! God Bless you all!**

Ensuring safe passage



Volunteers show a Travis parent the proper way to install a child safety seat.

Courtesy photo

Local volunteers help protect precious Travis cargo

Courtesy article

Travis parents and caregivers made sure their most precious cargo is well protected by attending a child safety seat Inspection Aug. 27 at the Base Exchange.

Volunteers — including California Highway Patrol officers, Health Department officials, family services personnel and Team Travis employees — checked the child safety seats to ensure the seats were properly installed and to identify potential safety concerns.

National studies show that approximately 80 percent of child safety seats are used incorrectly.

The recent base inspection surpassed that rate by more than 11 percent.

During the Travis inspection, volunteers found a 91.08 percent misuse rate of child safety seats.

According to event coordinators, while most parents attempt to do the right thing in regards to their child's safety, installation of child safety seats can be a difficult.

Without the full protection of a correctly installed seat, a child risks serious injury or death in a crash.

The child safety seat inspection, organized by Senior Airmen Kevin Davis and Raul Torres, was a public service used to provide education and needed assistance to parents and caregivers.

"Children are our most precious cargo and should be handled the correct way," the airmen said.

SQUADRON SPOTLIGHT

TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE

Air Force Band of the Golden West

Commander

Capt. Douglas Monroe

Band manager

Chief Master Sgt. Thomas Kistler

Mission

As members of the Public Affairs triad, the 12 existing active-duty bands play a key role in supporting internal Air Force musical needs and cultivating positive relations with many communities interacting with Air Force units. In order to streamline the mission, each of the 12 bands operate throughout a geographic area of responsibility in the United States, Europe, Asia or the Pacific.

The USAF Band of the Golden West exists to provide world-class musical products and services supporting

recruiting, retention, esprit de corps and community relations objectives while fostering national heritage throughout California, Washington and Oregon. Although the Band is a tenant unit at Travis, and reports directly to Headquarters Air Mobility Command at Scott AFB, IL, the 15th Air Force and the 60th Air Mobility Wing are not the only units the squadron serves. Throughout its GAR, the Band of the Golden West supports 15th AF, 14th AF, Vandenberg, Edwards, L.A., Beale, Fairchild and McChord AFBs as well as Air Force Reserve Center's 4th AF and the five reserve wings at March Air Reserve Base, Travis, Beale and McChord AFBs as well as Portland International Airport.

Capabilities

The 55-member unit is broken down into two main components. Galaxy, the popular music group, provides popular music favorites from the '50s to today's popular hits. Its shows are presented at events ranging from official military functions to recruiting and public school concerts. On the other side of the house, is the 45 piece concert band. The band's repertoire includes all genres of music from standard classical to jazz and pop to patriotic songs. In addition, the members of the concert band break down into seven smaller groups; a jazz band, chamber winds ensemble, woodwind quintet, brass quintet, Dixieland combo, percussion ensemble and a ceremonial marching band.

The band's mission, howev-

er, is not limited to direct support as in its August '02 tour of western Oregon for the AFRC's 939th Rescue Wing, or the formal retreat played on base last month. Clinics focusing on music education issues for local music educators and their students occur throughout the year. The band also records compact discs as force multipliers for educational and military purposes.

Significant Impact

Performed more than 346 events and performances from January to December 2001 to more than 562,128 people.

Community relations initiatives to cities and towns located in the Air Space complex at Edwards AFB, Calif. has yielded a reduction in

complaints during the last three years from 70 percent to 5 percent in areas where the band performed.

Performed for American Veterans Awards show, working with Michael Bolton, Randy Travis and others. Broadcast on the History Channel reaching an estimated 2 million viewers.

Post Sept. 11, 2001, concerts reached previously untapped markets such as mayor sponsored events in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Sacramento and Oakland.

Charged with forming a Total Force Band for the Tournament of Roses Parade, to include Active Duty, Reserve and Air National Guard musicians.

Musically supported Price is Right's salute to the Air Force.

Member of local community extends thank you to Team Travis, Doolittle Society



By Linda Weese
60th AMW Public Affairs

Duncan Miller, a strong supporter of Travis and a vintage aircraft collector, is paying tribute to Travis personnel and their families by hosting a warbird fly-in event Sept. 28 from 2 to 6 p.m. at the Nut Tree Airport in Vacaville.

Miller has a long tradition of supporting Travis by allowing his hangar to be used for squadron events and has also been a strong advocate of the airshow that is annually held at Travis. Due to world events, the Travis Air Show was canceled for 2002. Miller would still like to express his appreciation to Travis people for their support of the community.

The tribute to Travis will include a free barbecue, entertainment by the West Valley Chorale and the Air Force Band of the Golden West "Galaxy."

The highlight of the afternoon will be an opportunity to view more than 20 vintage aircraft. Of special note is the C-47 Goony Bird which Miller will be donating to the Jimmy Doolittle Historical Society. "The C-47 played a role in air dropping supplies to General Patton's Army during the D-day Invasion and I am proud to donate the aircraft to Travis," Miller said.

"There is a generation of local World War II veterans who appreciate Travis' contributions toward our current sacrifices in preserving what it means to be an American," said Chief Master Sgt. Fred Lewis, a member of the 6th Air Refueling Squadron and master of ceremony for the event.

For more information on the warbird fly-in event, contact Linda Weese at 424-0132, or Master Sgt. Doug Killingsworth at 424-4291.

Linda Weese / 60th AMW Public Affairs
Duncan Miller, a strong supporter of Team Travis, stands next to the C-47 that he is donating to the Doolittle Historical Society.

5 x 7

Announcements

Cheerleading clinic

Children 6 to 12 are invited to a cheerleading clinic from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 5 at the Youth Center gym. Learn cheers, chants, stunts, jumps and a dance. Students will perform at 3:30 p.m. for the parents. Call 424-5392 for details or to volunteer.

Frame Shop specials

The Frame Shop is offering a wedding special for all custom framing of wedding memorabilia until the end of October. All newlyweds (married less than one year) get 10 percent off their order and all other couples get 5 percent off. Frame a wedding invitation and a picture of the bride and groom, a collage of wedding pictures or a shadow box including the bridal bouquet.

Furthermore, self-framers can now use The Frame Shop on Tuesdays from noon to 8 p.m. to work on projects. No framing orders will be taken on Tuesdays. Call 424-1338 for more information.

Membership drive

The Air Force Clubs Membership Drive is on offering extra incentives, including coupons and prize drawings for DoD civilians, active duty, reservists and retired military who join the Delta Breeze Club before December 20. Call the DBC at 437-3711 for more information.

Services

Today

▲ Youth, ages 6 to 13, are invited to the Back-to-School Late Night Skate at the Travis Skating Rink from 5 p.m. to midnight. Tickets are \$20 at the door. The evening includes skate rental, games, prizes, pizza and soda for dinner and adult supervision. Novelties will be for sale from 7 to 10 p.m. during open skate. Call 424-3891 for more information.

▲ It's the last day to sign up for the Youth Center's babysitting clinic, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. Youth learn first aid and emergency preparedness and receive a certificate of completion. Registration is \$55 and must be done at the Youth Center. Call 424-5392 for details.

Saturday

▲ Tour Train Town in Sonoma with Outdoor Recreation, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Transportation is \$12 for adults and \$7 for chil-

dren. Call 424-0970 for details.

▲ Come watch the all-services bodybuilding championships at the Fitness Center. The pre-judging is at 9 a.m. and the competition is at 6 p.m. Tickets are available at the Fitness Center for both events.

▲ The English and Western Pleasure Schooling Show will be held at the Travis Equestrian Center. Gates open at 7 a.m., registration begins at 7:45 a.m. and the show starts at 8:50 a.m. Call or e-mail Barb Brewer for more information at 424-1278 or NCBC5@aol.com.

Monday

▲ Monday Night Football for the whole family at the Delta Breeze Club at 5 p.m. Get free snacks and enter to win valuable prizes with four football promotions.

▲ Learn how to become a licensed home childcare provider at Travis at the family childcare orientation Monday through Thursday. Call the FCC office at 424-4585 for more information.

Tuesday

▲ The community CPR course includes adult, child and infant CPR training and certification from 6 to 11 p.m. The cost is \$38. Pre-register at Outdoor Recreation or call 424-5240 for details.

Wednesday

▲ Play bar bingo in the enlisted and officer lounges from 6 to 8 p.m. Cards go on sale at 5:30 p.m.

▲ Sing from an extensive karaoke list and dance to top 40 hits in the Gold Rush Lounge every Wednesday from 8 p.m. to midnight. Club members get in free, and non-members pay \$3 cover.

Thursday

▲ Oktoberfest at the DBC continues with German specialties on the lunch buffet from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and German drink specials in the lounges all week.

Family Support

Monday

▲ Every Monday from 9 to 10 a.m. the Family Support Center offers Spouse Employment Orientation for newly arriving spouses, spouses returning to work or spouses wishing to explore new career opportunities. Tap into career focus networking, look at hundreds of job opportunities and learn about career-development classes. Call 424-2486.



Dig in: Military troops partake of the Sierra Inn's varied specialty meals, including T-bone steak and shrimp at the patriotic meal and enchiladas and tacos at the Mexican American meal. The airman appreciation meal will be held from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Thursday.

Tuesday

▲ Employment Interviewing Skills I is at the Family Support Center from 8 a.m. to noon. Learn interviewing techniques, how to answer difficult questions and more.

▲ The Cal-Vet home loans seminar is from 10 to 11 a.m. at the FSC. Call 424-2486.

Wednesday

The federal long-term care program is for civilians, annuitants, active duty, retirees and qualified relatives. The program is offered from 9 to 10 a.m.

Thursday

▲ The Informed Decisions class is from 8 a.m. to noon. It is a mandatory seminar for all first- and second-term enlisted within 15 months of date of separation. Topics cover Air Force benefits, retraining, TRICARE and Guard and Reserve opportunities. Call 424-2486.

▲ The long distance job search workshop is from 8 a.m. to noon at the FSC. Call 424-2486.

▲ WIC representatives will be at the FSC from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. by appointment only. Call 435-2200.

Family Advocacy

Dads' boot camp

The Boot Camp for Dads is a program in which veterans (new fathers) show rookies (fathers-to-be) the ropes of

fatherhood. The program is for men only and is currently recruiting for new fathers-to-be. This three-hour workshop is held the second Friday of every month. For more information, please call 423-5168

Parenting class

David Grant Medical Center holds a parenting class for parents of children three and older. Topics include peer pressure, corrective teaching, preventing problems before they occur, holding family meetings and stopping problem behavior. Classes run for six weeks. Call the Family Advocacy office to register at 423-5168.

Playgroups

Playgroups are for parents and their children and held at the Chapel One Annex on First Street. The Toddlers Playgroup is held Wednesdays from 9:30 to 11 a.m. for children 18 months to 3 years of age. The Time For Us Playgroup is for children 3 to 5 years of age and meets Tuesdays from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Thursdays from 9:30 to 11 a.m. is the Rattles To Raspberries Playgroup for infants up to 18 months old. Parents can network with other parents while the children enjoy crafts, guest speakers, music and free play. Registration is not necessary. For more information call 423-5168.

Chapel

Catholic services

▲ Monday through Friday, 11:30 a.m., communion service or Mass, Chapel Center.

▲ Thursday, noon, Catholic communion service, DGMCC Chapel.

▲ Saturday, 4 to 4:45 p.m., confessions, Chapel One.

▲ Saturday Mass, 5 p.m., Chapel One.

▲ Sunday Mass, 9 a.m., Chapel One.

▲ Sunday, 9 a.m., children's liturgy of the Word, Chapel One.

▲ Sunday Mass, 12:30 p.m., Chapel Center.

Protestant services

▲ Friday, noon, 30-minute worship service, DGMCC Chapel.

▲ Sunday, 8 a.m., community, praise and worship service, Chapel Center.

▲ Sunday, 10:30 a.m., community worship service, Chapel Center. Nursery class for kids 3 months to 3 years.

▲ Sunday, 11 a.m., community Gospel service, Chapel One.

Contemporary

Sundays, 5 p.m., Inside Out, Chapel Center. Children's program provided. For more information, contact Chaplain (Capt.) Herb Shao at 424-3943.

Wicca classes

Classes are held at various locations and times due to deployments. E-mail Beltane@prodigy.net for current information.

Jennifer Hayes / 60th Services Squadron

Hitting the ground crawling

Boot 4 Camp New Dads

Airman 1st Class Kenny Willoughby, a surgical technician at David Grant Medical Center, prepares for his new role as "father" with baby Gabrielle Redden by getting some hands-on experience with bottle-feeding. Gabrielle's dad, Tech Sgt. Mark Redden of the 9th Air Refueling Squadron, is a "veteran" dad working with the new dads in the "Boot Camp for New Dads" program offered by Travis' New Parent Support Program. The Willoughby family is expecting their baby in just a few short months.



(Photo by Capt. Kim Garbett / 60th AMW Public Affairs)

The challenges of fatherhood

By Capt. Kim Garbett
60th AMW Public Affairs

Forty percent of America's children will go to bed tonight in a home without their fathers.

Fortunately, baby Gabrielle is not one of them. 8-month-old Gabrielle happily gurgled in her dad's arms Sept. 13 as he holds her and talks to expectant fathers about what life is like playing "Mr. Dad."

Tech. Sgt. Mark Redden, boom operator with the 9th Air Refueling Squadron, said he felt as a veteran father, it was important to him to volunteer his time to the Boot Camp for New Dads course. "Parenting ultimately is about 'team,' not just mom, and I wanted to help new fathers understand their role and take hold of the responsibility of children more fully," he said.

The course is a non-profit program offered at more than 100 hospitals, schools and churches in 37 states across the United States. Travis Air Force Base is the only Air Force base currently offering the free program.

Boot Camp for New Dads is a unique program that brings rookie fathers-to-be together with veteran dads and their

newborns. It is a single, three-hour program currently held every second Friday of the month.

"Dads can be proactive versus standing on the sidelines," Redden said. "What makes a dad good is being involved. There are so many books on what a mother does or should expect with the coming of children that I believe this (Boot Camp for New Dads) is a great start for new dads," he said.

Staff Sgt. Steven Grant, a computer systems controller with the 615th Air Mobility Operations Squadron and one of the class' veteran dads, said before his son was born, he didn't have any previous interaction with babies.

"I was an only child and was terrified about the idea of handling a baby, but I really was committed to being a good father," he said. "I've seen so many bad examples of dads and wanted to share with soon-to-be dads what life with a new baby would bring."

"The challenge is that many new fathers have never held or diapered a baby," said Kirsten Clary, Family Advocacy nurse at David Grant Medical Center. "Boot Camp for New Dads provides a man-to-man format for new dads, under the guidance of experienced

coaches."

The veteran dads shared their babies with the rookies for hands-on training. They demonstrated how to hold, feed, comfort, diaper, swaddle, relieve gas/colic and how to play with an infant. How much sleep and different stages a baby goes through were also discussed.

According to Tech. Sgt. Richard Krusemark, a precision measurements equipment laboratory craftsman with the 60th Component Repair Squadron and one of the program coaches, the role of fathering has become more active during the past few decades.

"In the past, dads in America have been more-or-less limited to the role of breadwinner or disciplinarian," he said. "Now, I've seen more and more dads making some tough decisions about reducing their workload and prioritizing their time to take a more active role in parenting and in fathering."

Greg Bishop, founder of the 20-year-old program, said when he walks through airports, he sees more dads cuddling their babies. Men's rooms have changing tables. He also sees dads at the school bus stop in the morning, and sees them pushing carriages through the mall. "Involved and enthusiastic

dads are (more and more) prevalent, and families are benefiting," he said.

Capt. Leif Eckholm, a combat crew training school instructor pilot with the 60th Operations Support Squadron, is expecting his baby girl, Grace, any day now.

"This class is a great opportunity for me to learn from guys who have been there and done that," he said. "Having a child is a daunting task. Preparation, reading and research are keys to being a successful dad, and this class will hopefully give me a little more insight into what to more fully expect. Are you ever really ready, though?" he joked.

Airman 1st Class Aaron Mannes, a crew chief with the 60th Equipment Maintenance Squadron, said "Each step is a learning process, and I'm excited about having our first baby with my wife."

Second Lieutenant Adam Bryant, a secure communications specialist with the 60th Communications Squadron, was one of the coaches for the class. "I wanted to give a few tools to new fathers," he said.

"I think this is a great program and had a lot of information to share with them."

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS



Lt. Col. Eric Schnaible / USAF News Service



Chuck Pick / USAF News Service

(Left) Senior Airman Hugh Archer (top) and Airman 1st Class Teddy Whitton, both from the 721st Air Mobility Squadron, McGuire AFB, N.J., strap down an Army light utility vehicle (military version of a Chevy Blazer) bound for Operation Enduring Freedom areas of responsibility. Fourteen U.S. Army war reserve materiel light utility vehicles from the U.S. Army Combat Equipment Battalion - Luxembourg, Dudelange, Luxembourg; were convoyed to the Luxembourg international airport, escorted and guarded by host-nation Luxembourg

police and soldiers Aug. 29. **(Above)** Army Sgt. 1st Class Robert W. Vigil, (left) quality assurance inspector, US Army Combat Equipment Battalion - Luxembourg, and Staff Sgt. Jamie B. Jimenez, 721st Air Mobility Squadron, McGuire Air Force Base, N.J., conduct a joint airlift inspection, Aug. 27 at the U.S. Army Combat Equipment Battalion - Luxembourg, Dudelange, Luxembourg; on a light utility vehicle (military version of a Chevy Blazer) bound for Operation Enduring Freedom areas of responsibility.

US, Luxembourg partner in OEF equipment airlift

By Lt. Col. Eric Schnaible
USAF News Service

DUDELANGE, Luxembourg (USAFENS) — Showing joint and allied partnership in the global war on terrorism, elements of the U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army and Luxembourg government combined forces Aug. 29 to airlift combat-ready equipment to the Operation Enduring Freedom area of responsibility.

Fourteen U.S. Army war reserve materiel light utility vehicles from the Combat Equipment Battalion-Luxembourg were convoyed to the international airport here, escorted and guarded by host-nation Luxembourg police and soldiers.

Aided by an air transportation team from the 721st Air Mobility Squadron, McGuire Air Force Base, N. J., and with the support of the 86th Maintenance Squadron Aerospace Ground Equipment flight, Ramstein Air Base, Germany, a 60th AMW C-5B aircrew from Travis

AFB, Calif., received the shipment bound for the transportation hub at Rhein-Main AB, Germany, and points 'downrange' in support of the ongoing war on terrorism.

The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, home to both Air Force and Army war reserve materiel, has long played a vital role in the NATO alliance.

"Today's operation is an excellent example of military cooperation with an important ally and a key NATO partner," said U.S. Ambassador to Luxembourg Peter Terpeluk.

Designed to validate procedures and coordination channels, the airlift mission demonstrates the value of Luxembourg International Airport as an aerial port of

In the last year alone, elements of the 721st AMS have enabled air mobility operations from Qatar, Bagram and Kandahar.

embarkation for American pre-positioned materiel.

"Our site in Luxembourg is a world-class maintenance and storage facility, and today's operation highlights its ability, in cooperation with our Luxembourg allies, to exercise strategic airlift," said Army Col. Robert Cox,

commander of U.S. Army Materiel Command's Combat Equipment Group-Europe, headquartered at Shinnen in the Netherlands.

The Chief of the Luxembourg Army, Col. Nico Ries, and other senior officials from the Luxembourg Ministries of Defense and Foreign Affairs witnessed the airlift operation. Employing more than 300 Luxembourgers under the aus-

pices of Warehouses Service Agency, CEB-LU is one of a global chain of U.S. Army land and sea-based power projection platforms.

Staff Sgt. Jamie Jimenez, air transportation team chief, Airman 1st Class Teddy Whitton and Senior Airman Hugh Archer, air transportation specialists, respectively, from 721st AMS, ensured the vehicle load was inspected for hazardous materials, weighed, computed and marked for their center of gravity, assisting the Travis-based aircrew with the load plan.

In the last year alone, elements of the 721st AMS have enabled air mobility operations missions from Qatar, Bagram, and Kandahar.

"As AMOGers, we like to say we're TDY at home and stationed overseas," Jimenez said. "We typically come in, set up air mobility operations and usually leave for the next place before the nice amenities arrive."